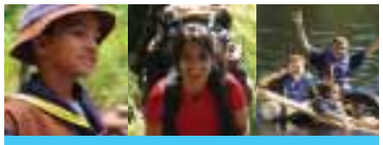

Watch next week's Metro for Scouts Canada - Scout Week

HAPPY FAMILY DAY
METRO WILL NOT PUBLISH ON MONDAY. WE RETURN ON TUESDAY. FOR FAMILY DAY ACTIVITIES, TURN TO PAGE 2

CARE TACTICS
POLICE RETHINK MENTAL-HEALTH STRATEGY
{page 4}

1st Round Playoff Tickets On Sale
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News worth sharing.

Campus police probe portal potty-mouth

Western officials say no student information was compromised in hacker intrusion on election website

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

Um, sorry for the intrusion. I was just trying to "prove a point about a loophole."

So far, that's the only thing anyone has heard from the person supposedly responsible for hacking Western's student-council election site.

The apology — and explanation — was sent anonymously on Wednesday to the student newspaper. By then, staff and members of the university students' council had already spent hours trying to figure out what went wrong.

"It was a late night," USC president Andrew Forgione said on Thursday.

Concerns about hacking were raised about five years ago when elections were taken from paper ballots to the web, Forgione said. Because of that, the school built a special portal to handle the job instead of depending on an external service such as those used by many other universities.

"Honestly, we didn't think it would be possible," he said about hacking. "We'd been assured it was safe."

Forgione was eating dinner on Wednesday — shortly before voting was set to close — when he learned the impossible had happened: A hacker had gained access to the site and posted various welcome messages, including one that asked for input on Justin Bieber's haircut and another that read "University Erection."

New ballots will be cast from Feb. 29 to March 1, and campus police are leading an investigation into the incident, Western spokesman Keith Marnoch said. As for students' personal information, it's safe and sound, he said. Students used identification numbers to log in and the information wasn't stored.

Systems used to maintain academic and other university records were untouched. Such information, Marnoch said, is protected at a much "higher security level" than that used on the election site.

10K
The approximate number of online ballots cast before voting was stopped in the Western student-council election.
Source: University officials

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

▶ Andrew Forgione, president of Western University's students' council, says Internet-technology staff have fixed the "loophole" that allowed a hacker to gain access to a portal used to cast ballots in the student-council election. The site on the computer in his campus office shows the welcome screen students see before they log in to vote.

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On the web at metronews.ca

A Nigerian man who tried to blow up a packed flight with a bomb hidden in his underwear has been sentenced to life in prison. Video at metronews.ca

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Taking a day for the family

- Plenty of events on tap to mark Monday's Family Day holiday
- Schedule features events ranging from family sports to crafts

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

Carriage rides. Scenic outdoor ice-skating. A quick dip at a neighbourhood indoor pool.

If it involves recreation and having a good time with loved ones there's a good chance it's happening on Family Day.

While public venues generally close-up shop to mark many holidays, Family Day is a perfect chance to swing the doors wide open, event organizers said.

At Storybook Gardens, it's one of the busiest days of the winter season, manager John Riddell said.

"There's not a long tradition tied to (the holiday). There's not the big meal, there's not the Easter egg hunt ... People are kind of looking for things to do," he said.

"It's a great day for families to get outside and spend some time together and that's what we're all about."

Like Storybook, other city venues are planning a day packed with activities. Some of the events are free, including drop-in programs at community centres. Skating is free at some arenas if you make a donation to the London Food Bank.

MP Ed Holder is also offering people a chance to lace their skates and the support the food bank. His fifth annual Skate for Kids will start at noon at the Western Fair Sports Centre.

The London Children's Museum is getting in on the action with a Black History Month-themed event featuring dancing, storytelling and henna tattoos.

The lineup

Don't know what to do with the family? For details on some events happening in the area on Monday check:

- london.ca/playyourway
- storybook.london.ca
- edholdermp.ca/skateforkids
- londonchildrensmuseum.ca

Within. Reach

▶ Shawn Daniels of the London Lightning goes up for a basket against Antonio Burks of the Saint John Mill Rats during National Basketball League of Canada action at the John Labatt Centre Thursday night. The Lightning won 93-89.

MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

Mill Rats struck down by Lightning

Daniels had 10 points for the home team as they improved their record to 25-6. Gabe Freeman led the way for the Lightning with 23 points and 14 rebounds, while Tim Ellis also had a double-double with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Last night's game could be a playoff preview, with the Mill Rats possible opponents for the first-place Lightning.

OPP called in for ORNGE probe

Ontario Provincial Police have been called in to investigate ORNGE, the province's troubled air ambulance service.

A source says government officials who were sent in to look at ORNGE's books have asked police to probe some "financial irregularities."

The agency has been under a cloud of controversy over questionable business practices and high executive salaries.

$140M
The amount ORNGE receives from the province annually to operate a non-profit air medical rescue and transport service.

Health Minister Deb Matthews cleaned house at the agency last month. She replaced CEO Chris Mazza — who was paid $1.4 million a year — and the entire board of directors.

▶ Deb Matthews

METRO

News in brief

Woman killed daughter, self

KITCHENER. Waterloo regional police say a woman killed herself and her young daughter earlier this week. The bodies of Joanna Nowakowska, 38, and her four-year-old daughter Bianca were discovered Monday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pool tourney is on tap

LONDON. The biggest pool tournament in the province is taking place this weekend at the London Hilton.

The 18th annual Ontario National 8-Ball Association tourney, which features 135 teams and 386 singles, runs until Sunday. The prize pool is $70,000.

METRO

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New strategy needed for mental-health calls: Chief

Police department developing a plan for dealing with patients with mental-health issues Result should be better care for people in need

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

▶ Deputy chief Brent Shea, left, Chief Brad Duncan and police services board member Paul Paolatto are pictured during a Thursday board meeting at the police department.

ANGELA MULLINS
@METRONEWS.CA

The London police board took some of the first steps Thursday toward developing a strategy to deal with calls stemming from mental-health issues.

Leaders of the effort hope the results will be multi-pronged: eliminating gaps in service for mental-health patients and cutting costs at the police department.

"When we did our workload analysis … we noticed that there was a 16 per cent increase in total calls for service. We started breaking that down," Chief Brad Duncan said. "In a four-year period, (there was a) 32 per cent (increase) in terms of dealing with mentally ill individuals on the street."

All of that boils down to man-hours and money. Duncan used one recent example to paint the picture: 40 hours spent dealing with two incidents tied to mental health.

"That's one week's wages of a police officer and the outcome (for the person involved) really wasn't any different than when we started," he said. "If we can point these individuals to another service provider — which will actually be more efficient, more effective and assist them — that's the way we want to go.

"There has to be a better way because at the end of the day, we can only take it so far."

Putting the strategy together will require input from health-service providers, police administration, the police services board and likely others. An effective strategy could save thousands — possibly millions — of dollars, officials said.

In other news

▶ **Contract.** Members of the police services board approved a four-year contract Thursday with the union representing officers. The agreement is retroactive to 2011 and includes an 11.2 per cent pay increase. The union approved the deal earlier this month.

To serve and protect the Knights

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Kyle Flemington

Enforcers have long been a part of hockey. Players like Dave Semenko, Marty McSorley and Bob Probert made careers out of using their fists to protect skilled teammates from thuggery at the hands of opponents.

The Knights' Kyle Flemington fills this role on a London roster that's brimming with highly talented players who could be targeted by foes.

Seth Griffith, currently tied for third in OHL scoring with 40 goals and 74 points in 53 games, loves having the big defenceman in his corner creating space on the ice.

"Flemington is a tough guy," he said. "It's great having his support and knowing that, if things get chippy, he has our back."

With 10 fighting majors in only 28 games, the 19-year-old Flemington isn't shy to drop the gloves when necessary. In fact, it's a role he relishes.

"Some guys don't like it, but I have no problem," Flemington said. "(I'm there) to keep guys in line, to make sure things don't get out of hand during the game."

Being the team's enforcer is something expected of him by the Knights braintrust. It's one of the main reasons he's in London.

"When I first came to the Knights when I was 16, I was told by Mark Hunter that I was there to fight," said Flemington.

Being a bodyguard can be thankless work. But the Knights have noticed Flemington's commitment to the team.

"We haven't really done anything for him yet, but we will," Griffith said as the six-foot-seven Flemington stood within earshot before Thursday's practice.

MIKE ARSENAULT

Musical. Act

▶ Western student Aliena McIntyre plays the contra bassoon during Thursday's wind ensemble performance at the university's Paul Davenport Theatre.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Students share their skills

Students in the Don Wright Faculty of Music are marking what's called performance week, showing fellow students, the public and family members what they've learned during second-term course work. Western's wind ensemble has about 60 members under the direction of Colleen Richardson.

City on pace to set winter weather record

Besides a blast from Old Man Winter last weekend, we have had a seriously mild winter.

So far this winter, London's average daily temperature has been almost half a degree higher than the record of 0.9 C set in 2001-2002.

Environment Canada Meteorologist Jeff Coulson says barring any major storm systems, we are on pace for a record.

"We have been notably warmer than normal for the month so far, coming in with an average temperature of -1.5 C," said Coulson. "The long-term average is -5.5 C, a full four degrees warmer than normal, so we need to keep that trend going for the rest of the month."

AM980/AM980.CA

1.3C
The average daily temperature in London this winter.

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HUSKY QUARANTINED

Family dog kills baby near Calgary

A family dog has killed a newborn baby boy in a community just north of Calgary.

RCMP said the infant was attacked Wednesday morning inside the family's home in Airdrie.

The boy was taken to Alberta Children's Hospital in Calgary with traumatic injuries and died 12 hours later.

"It is a sad case all around," said RCMP Sgt. Patricia Neely.

"The investigation has been conducted by the RCMP and there is absolutely no indication of negligence on behalf of the family.... The pet has no previous history of aggression or violence and this was completely unexpected."

The dog, a husky, is being quarantined until the family and bylaw officers decide whether it should be destroyed.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ex-Degrassi actor mourned

▶ Neil Hope

Degrassi creator Linda Schuyler expressed condolences Thursday as word emerged that actor Neil Hope, who played Derek "Wheels" Wheeler on the long-running youth series, apparently died five years ago without any public announcement.

It wasn't clear why his death had not been reported previously, but a spokeswoman for Epitome Pictures, which produced the award-winning series, said castmates had lost track of the former star. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feds target 'bogus' refugees

New bill includes biometric ID, limits to appeals

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Immigration Minister Jason Kenney

The Conservative government is using its majority to once again overhaul the refugee system to reduce what it considers to be bogus claims.

Immigration Minister Jason Kenney tabled legislation in the House of Commons on Thursday that reverses some key concessions the Tories made to the opposition two years ago in order to pass the Balanced Refugee Reform Act through a minority Parliament.

This new legislation, called the Protecting Canada's Immigration System Act, more closely resembles the original refugee bill as tabled by the Tories, before any concessions.

But Kenney says a glut of refugee claims from the European Union has forced the government to adopt even tougher measures.

"We worked with the opposition in good faith and we ended up with a bill that was a huge improvement over the status quo," he said Thursday. "But we have a serious problem. We're facing a large wave of unfounded asylum claims coming from the European Union in particular. The only tool we have to address that now is the imposition of a visa. That hurts Canada's commercial, diplomatic interests. It hurts the tourism industry. We need other tools to address it."

Canada is close to inking a free-trade agreement with the European Union. The Czech Republic has threatened to hold up the deal if Canada does not get rid of a visa requirement it slapped on Czech citizens in 2009.

The new legislation would give the federal immigration minister final say over which countries are considered safe and which are not.

"Our generous asylum system has been abused by people making bogus refugee claims," Kenney said. "Our government is very concerned about the recent increase in refugee claims from democratic countries that respect human rights."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Appeals curbed

- Refugees from safe countries whose claims are rejected will no longer be permitted to appeal the decision to the Immigration and Refugee Board. They are allowed to appeal to the board under the current legislation.
- All rejected claimants can still appeal to the Federal Court, but they can be kicked out of the country while they wait for a ruling.

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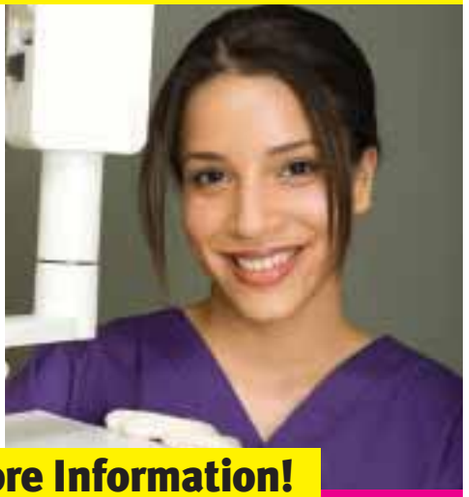

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Man convicted in Cup riots gets 17 months

20-year-old is first person to be sentenced Crown has approved charges against a total of 47 people

The first person convicted in Vancouver's Stanley Cup riot was sentenced Thursday to 17 months in jail after admitting to joining the mob that left a path of destruction throughout the city's downtown core.

Ryan Dickinson, 20, pleaded guilty to participating in a riot, as well as breaching bail conditions from an unrelated assault charge.

He admitted to using a road barricade and a newspaper box to damage an unmarked police car, and then later tossing a mannequin and a newspaper box at the window of a clothing store several blocks away.

GEOFF HOWE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Rioters break the front doors of a Sears department store during the riot following Game 7 of the NHL Stanley Cup final in Vancouver last June.

The Crown had asked for as much as 18 months in jail, arguing that everyone who participated that night must be punished for all of the damage the riot caused, regardless of their individual level of involvement.

The Crown labelled Dickinson an "instigator," casting him as an angry young man who appeared on video presented in court to be enjoying the violence.

Provincial court judge Malcolm MacLean rejected Dickinson's suggestion that he was merely "caught up in the moment."

After jail, he'll be on probation for two years, MacLean ruled.

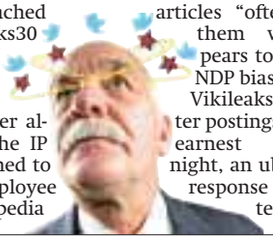
So far, police have recommended charges against a total of 125 people, but Crown counsel has only approved charges against 47.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Vikileaks' may have Commons link

The Twitter stunt that revealed sleazy details about Public Safety Minister Vic Toews' acrimonious divorce proceedings appears to have emanated from the House of Commons.

In a web-savvy investigation, the Ottawa Citizen traced the Internet Protocol address attached to the Vikileaks30 Twitter account to a Commons computer.



The newspaper also discovered the IP address is attached to a House employee who edits Wikipedia articles "often giving them what appears to be a pro-NDP bias."

Vikileaks30's Twitter postings began in earnest Tuesday night, an uber-public response to the Internet surveillance legislation — Protecting Children from Internet Predators Act — tabled by Toews.

Tweets divulged Toews' alleged infidelities while married to Lorraine Fehr, whom he divorced in 2010 after a 32-year union.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Patient gets wish

Talk show host Ellen DeGeneres granted would-be lung transplant patient Hélène Campbell's wish Thursday morning by talking about organ donation, but went a step further with a surprise interview via Skype from her set in Los Angeles.

Campbell was so surprised she had to ask her mom to increase her oxygen tank's flow to help her breath. The 20-year-old has idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis and only has 24 per cent lung capacity. She is waiting for a double lung transplant.

METRO OTTAWA

GM's prosperity may not last

Record profits in 2011 may mean expansion in Canada if sales keep up

General Motors earned its biggest profit ever in 2011, but signs are emerging that its momentum could slow.

Strong sales in the U.S. and China helped the carmaker turn a profit of $7.6 billion US, beating its old record of $6.7 billion in 1997 during the pickup-truck and SUV boom.

Yet the company lost ground in the fourth quarter. Its profit fell eight per cent and missed Wall Street expectations. Europe and South America reported losses. And sales growth in the U.S. slowed even as more Americans bought cars and trucks

Still, GM is a vastly different company than it was in the late 1990s. It's smaller, has less debt and its contract with the United Auto Workers is less costly.

But it took a government bailout and bankruptcy protection in 2009 to cut its bloated costs. The company made record money last year even though U.S. sales were near historic lows of 12.8 million cars and trucks.

This year, GM expects to increase its revenue as global sales grow and it charges more for models. However, it will make less money per vehicle as sales continue to shift to cars from trucks. It also expects to invest $8 billion on new products and technology, and says pension expenses will rise. The company wants to keep expenses down by freezing its underfunded U.S. pension plan for salaried workers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PAUL SAKUMA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A 2011 Chevrolet Cruze is featured at a car dealership in San Jose, Calif. General Motors Co. said Thursday it made more money in 2011 than in any year in its history.

Plan for Greek debt just not good enough: Diplomat

BAILOUT. A European diplomat says current plans to help Greece with its debt load would still leave the country with debt of 129 per cent of economic output in 2020. That's far above the 120 per cent level that eurozone leaders in October said was the maximum that could be considered sustainable. The diplomat says international debt inspectors estimate in a new report that Greece's promised austerity efforts, a 100-billion-euro debt relief from private investors and a 130-billion-euro bailout, fail to reduce the country's debt sufficiently. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Minor leak keeps Enbridge pipes offline

OIL LEAK. Two Enbridge Inc. pipelines were offline Thursday after the major crude shipper said it discovered a small leak in Michigan. The spill of less than three barrels was found during planned maintenance-inspection and repair work to Line 5 on Wednesday, near the village of Sterling, Mich. It's expected Line 5, which carries 491,000 barrels of per day between Superior, Wis., and Sarnia, Ont., will be repaired and restarted. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MSN focusing on here and NOW

Microsoft is hooking up MSN.com with a hipper sidekick to broaden its appeal and stay on top of the Internet's hottest topics.

The trend-tracking service, called msnNOW, tunes into the buzz by sifting through millions of Internet searches and links circulating among the hordes on Facebook and Twitter. The chatter is then distilled into the equivalent of a digital water cooler — a place where people can go to keep in touch without taking up a lot of their time. After months of development, the new feature debuts Thursday at now.msn.com.

The service is primarily aimed at college-age teenagers and young adults who are increasingly relying on smartphones and other mobile devices to remain plugged into what everyone is talking about from one hour to the next. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama popularity up with economy

President Barack Obama's approval ratings are keeping pace with the improving U.S. economy, helped as well by the growing turmoil in the Republican contest for the nomination to challenge him in November.

While the Republicans fiercely battle one another, the president was expected to collect more than $8 million US from fundraising events that will take him from Los Angeles and San Francisco on Thursday to the Seattle area on Friday.

During a fundraiser, Obama told about 125 donors that his 2008 campaign had brought with it "a sense of possibility" for moving the country in a new direction. "We've begun that process but the journey is not complete."

Obama took in more than $220 million in campaign contributions last year and is bolstering that funding base as the Republican presidential contest remains unsettled.

California has been a mainstay of Democratic party fundraising and a reliably Democratic-voting state. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. THURSDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas	Gold
+ 123.57 (12,485.59)	+ 0.26¢ (100.35¢ US)	+ $0.52 US ($102.32 US)	$2.55 US (+ 12¢ US)	$1,728.40 US (+ $0.30 US)

A NATION IS SWEPT AWAY BY LINSANITY

THE METRO LIST

NEIL MORTON
METRO

1 Pinterest.com: It's the next Facebook or Twitter. Quietly but suddenly, this invite-only virtual pinboard where you "organize and share things you love" has exploded in popularity. It's still technically in beta, but is already one of the Top 10 social networks. Before you know it "pin" and "repin" will become as common terms as "tweet" and "retweet." You can "Like" it if you like.

2 Purple squirrel: Since a Pennsylvania couple discovered a purple squirrel in their backyard, the story has gone nuts on the Internet and a @purplsqurl Twitter account and Purple Squirrel Facebook page were started. A purple squirrel? For real? In related news, I think I saw a green chipmunk in my backyard. And a red bear. And a sasquatch.

3 Dare to wear red: Giving more meaning to the colour red this month, the Stephen Lewis Foundation dares Canadians to wear red and raise money to turn the tide of HIV-AIDS in Africa. The three top fundraisers by Feb. 29th will get to walk the runway at Toronto Fashion Week in March. Get more info at daretowearlove.com.

4 Tweet on Whitney Houston: A teenager on Twitter broke the news of Whitney's death a full 45 minutes before the mainstream media. The tweet, from @AjaDiorNavy, read thusly: "omgg , my aunt tiffany who work for whitney houston just found whitney houston dead in the tub . such ashame & sad :-(" Further proof social media really has changed everything.

5 Linsanity: LeBron who? New York Knicks point guard Jeremy Lin has come out of nowhere to become one of the most exciting players in the NBA — and one of its biggest new brands. He has led the must-watch Knicks to seven straight wins, including a buzzer-beater in Toronto against the Raps this week. On Twitter, he's gained 200,000 followers in one week @jlin7. A sure sign he's made it.

6 What Makes You Happy: A magazine with one of the longest titles ever — What Makes You Happy — launched this month with comedian Rick Mercer on the cover. It will tackle "happy, inspiring, silly, important, useful and/or frivolous" articles addressing different aspects of happiness. If you don't read it, just listen to Don't Worry, Be Happy. Works like a charm.

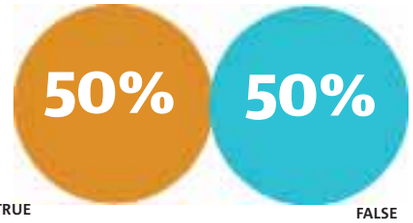
7 Will & Kate Barbie dolls: To commemorate their one-year anniversary April 29th, Mattel announced this week it's releasing Will and Kate royal-wedding Barbie dolls. You can preorder the Barbie Collector Royal Wedding William and Catherine Doll Set on Amazon. I'm holding out for my Kim Kardashian and Reggie Bush dolls.

8 Justin Bieber: The Biebs made world headlines this week when he made a dying girl's wish come true. Six-year-old Avalanna Routh has a rare form of brain cancer and her dream was to meet Bieber, so he flew her and her parents to N.Y.C. on Monday for a private meeting where they hung out and played board games. Never say never.

Follow Neil Morton on Twitter (@neilmorton).

Panel **Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll**

True or false: Once a cheater, always a cheater?



Local tweets

- **@mikehaarsma:** And that was a fun drive into work this morning... #ldnont
- **@BrianBlatnicki:** Traditionally, influence was in the hands of the media. Now anyone w access to a cell phone can be engaged & influence a community. #LDNont
- **@jeffsage:** The idea democracy is out of the bag in #ldnont and it's not going back.
- **@PattiMumaCook:** Previews of 'Better Living' and 'Escape From Happiness' went great both nights! Openings begin tomorrow! #Fanshawe #Theatre
- **@rkellyshitonme:** #igotoaschool, but im just registered at their gym. #WesternU
- **@grizzlyrizzly:** I have never heard the word 'transparency' used more in my life then in the last two weeks #westernu #uscelections #usc
- **@isabellabellla:** RT @LdnOntProblems: Don't lie, we all have that one friend who thinks they're a dj. #LondonProblems #LdnOnt

LIONEL CIRONNEAU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Daily Zoom

When life gives you lemons ...

... make a festival

Workers made a French castle with lemons and oranges during the 79th Lemon Festival in Menton, southern France, on Thursday. The theme for the festival, which involves over 300 workers and uses 145 tonnes of citrus fruit, is "Menton welcomes the Regions of France."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Everyone loves 'em

Parades are a regular part of the festival, which runs until March 7.

- **Golden Citrus Parade:** Floats and live marching band music
- **Moonlit Parade:** Drumbeats, fireworks and dancing
- **Citrus exhibition:** The Biovès Gardens exhibit giant sculptures

Celebrate citrus

To celebrate different regions of France, citrus displays depict different aspects of the country, such as the Eiffel Tower for Paris, pictured right. Menton grows several varieties of lemons. The Palais Carnolès, a two-hectare public garden in Menton, grows over 100 kinds of fruit. METRO

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▶ The Artist

HANDOUT

▶ The Descendants

Synopsis

With just a few more sleeps until the biggest night in Hollywood, this week the Reel Guys breakdown the show; from the host to who should win and who *will* win best picture.

▶ Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close

▶ Moneyball

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE & MARK BRESLIN

Oscars 'crystallized'

Richard Crouse and Mark Breslin share their thoughts on Billy Crystal reprising his role as Oscar host ◗ And they place their bets on best picture

Richard: We talked about the Oscars a few weeks ago, but we didn't touch on Billy Crystal coming back as host. I loved the old Crystal shows, but really hope he finds a new fresh approach for this year. I'm not interested in seeing him do another opening montage where he inserts himself into the nominated footage. What do you, oh comedy guru, hope he does with the show?

Mark: Oh, Richard, you know he's gonna do it; this time in black and white, in flip-flops and silent. Those montage sequences are like a drug to him — his name is Crystal, after all. It'll be old and hoary, but at least there will be some laughs. Of course, Billy's getting so old he'll have to turn his hearing aid up extremely loud and the teleprompter will have to be incredibly close. Your prediction on Best Picture, Richard?

RC: The Artist was the most fun I had at the movies last year but I'm not sure that means it deserves a best picture win. I think it will take it because it has won all the guild awards, but in my heart it's between Moneyball and Tree of Life. What's your choice?

MB: My choice is The Descendants, a movie of great maturity and mid-tone emotion. I had considered it a shoo-in until recently, because I thought The Artist was original to the point of gimmickry. But now I think The Artist is going to take it. It's a movie I liked a lot, but it's not very subtle. As far as Tree of Life goes, I thought it was pretentious hooey. And I heard they used non-union dinosaurs.

RC: Pretentious hooey! I accept that the birth of the universe sequence separates the men from the film snobs, but I loved how evocative of childhood it was. It captured something deeply emotional, even spiritual, whereas The Artist simply entertained the eye. The Descendants, for me, was a so-so movie with nice performances. Perhaps if Clooney had been working opposite a dinosaur I might have enjoyed it more.

MB: Yeah, I know, Tree of Life certainly has its fans. The divisive film I loved was Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close. I guess the childhood depicted in that picture — melancholic, guilt-ridden, borderline Aspergers — was evocative of my own. But it doesn't stand a chance to win the Oscar, and I've made my inner peace with that.

2 scene

Scene in brief

Once again Nicholas Cage turns up the heat as Johnny Blaze, the stunt biker who sacrifices his soul and becomes a fiery vigilante. This time he's hiding out in eastern Europe and joins a group of rebel monks to save a boy from the devil. Johnny Whitworth (of Empire Records fame) takes on the role of bad guy Ray Carrigan, who becomes Blackout.
METRO

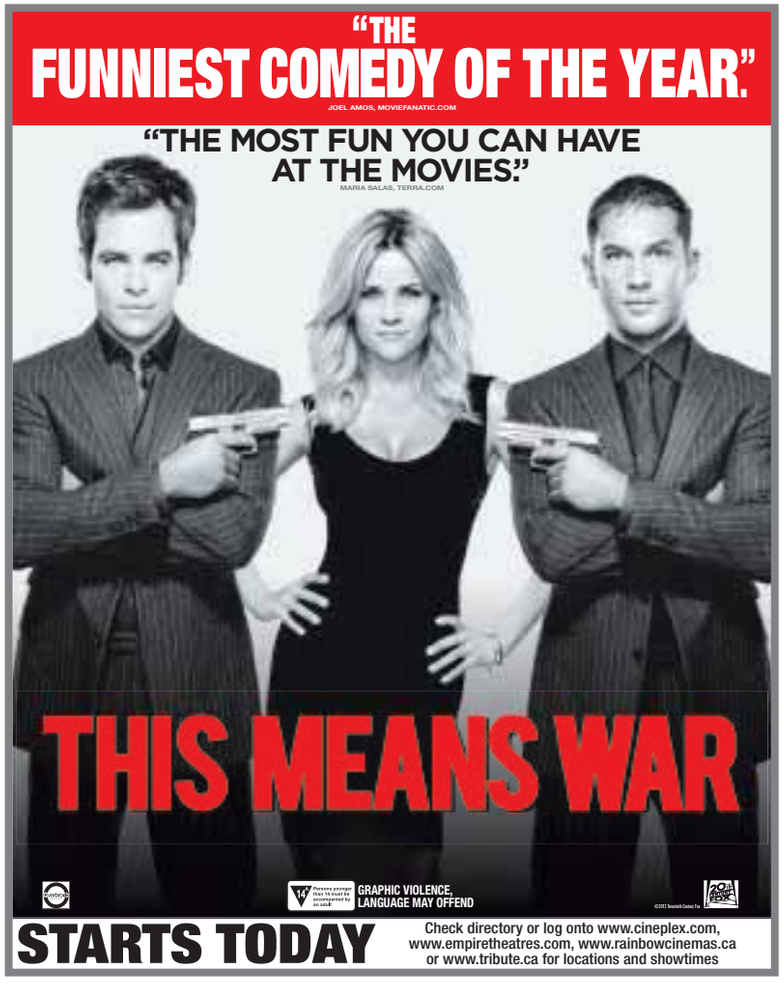
Oprah Winfrey joins Jimmy Kimmel's post-Oscar special

Movies See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

The Secret World of Arrietty
Genre: Animation
Director: Hiromasa Yonebayashi
Stars: Bridgit Mendler, Amy Poehler, Will Arnett
●●●½
Already a hit in Asia, The Secret World of Arietty makes its North American debut with a new voice cast — including Carol Burnett — but the gorgeous animation intact. The story of a young ailing boy who discovers tiny people living beneath the floorboards of his house is gently-paced kid's entertainment. The story unfurls slowly, scenes take their time to develop and the animation is classic, not frenetic. Kung Fu Panda Part 2 this isn't. The Secret World of Arietty may be a tad on the slow side for kids over the age of 10, but for the younger ones it's a wildly imaginative introduction to anime and fantasy storytelling.
RICHARD CROUSE

This Means War
Genre: Comedy/Action
Director: McG
Stars: Reese Witherspoon, Chris Pine, Tom Hardy
●
Sure to be one of the most contrived films of the year, This Means War features two buddy CIA operatives (Chris Pine, Tom Hardy) competing for the same woman (Reese Witherspoon). In short, the romantic-actioner is Bridget Jones' Diary meets Mr. & Mrs. Smith — only its miles from being as watchable as either.

And as phony as the romance plays, the action doesn't add much lift to ease the pain. Full of lame set-ups and unbelievable situations (a government agent with a condo that would make Donald Trump jealous? Really?), this groaner doesn't hold an ounce of plausibility and concludes as disappointing as a box of rancid Valentine candy.
STEVE GOW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MARIA SALAS, TERRA.COM
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GRAPHIC VIOLENCE, LANGUAGE MAY OFFEND
STARTS TODAY
Check directory or log onto www.cineplex.com, www.empiretheatres.com, www.rainbowcinemas.ca or www.tribute.ca for locations and showtimes

LONDON TRANSIT NEWS

Family Day, February 20, 2012

Buses will operate on a Sunday schedule on Monday, February 20, 2012 in observance of Family Day.

Downtown Ticket Office will be closed on Monday, February 20. Regular service hours will resume on Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

my bus info
www.ltconline.ca 519-451-1347

Stifler, in skates

Seann William Scott is known for his lug-head characters
But he has some highbrow tastes — with a frat boy twist, of course

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

HANDOUT

▶ Seann William Scott stars in Goon.

Seann William Scott is best known for playing Steve 'Stifmeister' Stifler in the American Pie series of movies. The character was a hard partying lug-head, who, according to the direct-to-DVD sequel Band Camp, became a porno director.

His specialty in films like Road Trip, Dude, Where's My Car? and The Dukes of Hazzard is playing hapless stoners and lug-heads so it may surprise you that his DVD player is currently hosting La Vie en Rose. That's right, the life story of singer Édith Piaf.

"That may be my favourite movie of all time," he says.

I tell him I once interviewed the movie's star Marion Cotillard.

"Is she hot?" he asks. "I have such a huge crush on her. She's got a boyfriend though. I went on the computer and looked up who she's dating. A serious boyfriend for a long time. Sucks."

That's the Seann William Scott audiences know and love. As an actor he usually finds the unexpected angle on a joke, and knows how to reel the viewer in.

We have a laugh before moving on to talk about his new film Goon. He plays a hockey enforcer even though he didn't grow up with the sport.

"I'm more of a fan now," he says. "When I grew up in Minnesota I played baseball, football and basketball. So in the wintertime that's what I played, which is odd, because it's Minnesota. All my friends played hockey and I was always envious because all the girls liked the hockey players. Nobody came to the basketball games.

"Since the movie I have a greater appreciation of it now because it is so intense.

"I love hockey now. I think the relationship between the players is way cool.

"The guys are just closer and there is a sense of humour about it.

"Maybe it's a more manly sport than basketball … I'm sure a lot of basketball players won't appreciate that."

HANDOUT

▶ Goon pays respect to the hockey enforcer's job.

Script for Goon came from a 'pure place'

A year-and-a-half ago Jay Baruchel told me he was writing a script for what he said would be the best hockey movie since the 1977 crowd favourite Slap Shot.

The resulting film is Goon, a new comedy tribute to the most misunderstood sports stars — the hockey enforcer. When I ask him if he could still make that boast now that the movie was finished he said, "With a doubt. Unquestionably."

"I go so far as to say we have the best hockey in any hockey movie.

"It has teeth and it hits you in the head like a two-by-four. It's loud. It's coarse. It's violent. But none of what I just mentioned would work or be relevant if you didn't care about what was happening. The most important thing about this movie is, and I hate using this word because it is so overused, but how much heart it has."

Shot in Manitoba, the movie stars American Pie's Seann William Scott as Doug Glatt, a semi-professional hockey player who can not only give a beating, but take one as well.

"It is an anthem to the most maligned, least understood position in professional sports," says Baruchel, "that of the hockey enforcer. I grew up with not just an appreciation but an inherent respect for what they did, so I decided these boys deserved their moment in the sun.

"That's why (the movie) is as violent as it is because it is not a clean job they do. Just like a soldier who leaves and runs the risk of not coming home this guy runs the risk of having some very terrible injuries inflicted on him every time he skates.

"We're not passing some moral judgment on it aside from (the idea that) we could take a lesson from these boys about their humble blue-collar work ethic."

RICHARD CROUSE

F. Scott Fitzgerald's
THE GREAT GATSBY
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On shooting in Winnipeg

How did Seann William Scott like filming just north of home?

▶ "I expected it to be like Minnesota, but the girls were hotter in Winnipeg," he says.

"They dress better and they're a little more hip. I was confused. Minnesota is just below. How'd they get so hip? I think they just eat better.

"They're not stuffing cheese curds down their throats."

LONDON

Mustang Drive-In -London
2551 Wilton Grove Rd., 519-644-1160
Listings not available at press time.

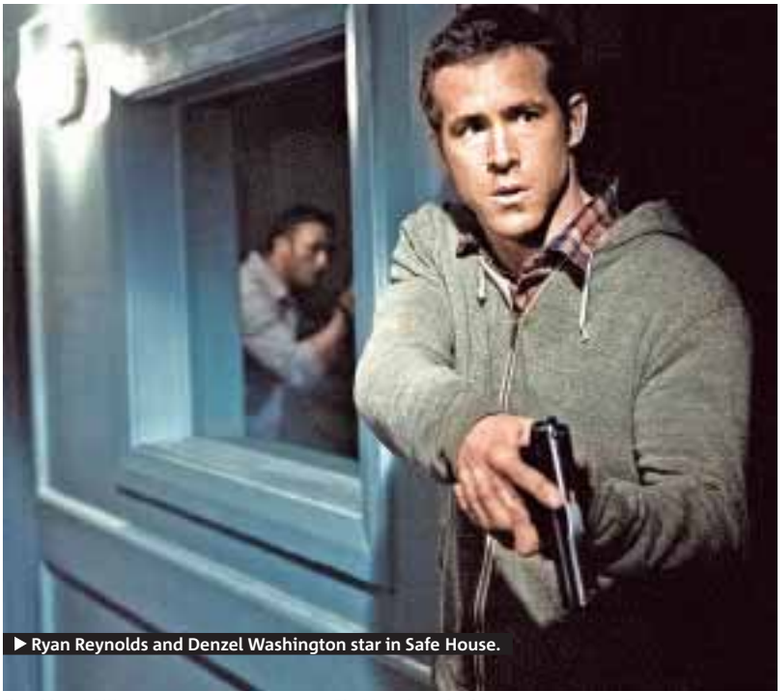
Hyland Cinema
240 Wharncliffe Road South, 519-913-0313
Albert Nobbs (14A) Fri-Sat 2:50-9 Sun 6:55 Mon 1-9 Tue 3-9 Wed 1-5 Thu 5
The Artist (PG) Fri-Sat 1-7 Sun 1-5-9 Mon 3:10-7 Tue 1-7:10 Wed 3:10-9 Thu 3-7:10
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri-Sat 5 Sun 2:55 Mon 5 Tue 5:10 Wed 7:05 Thu 1-9

Rainbow Cinemas London
355 Wellington St., 519-434-3073
Big Miracle (STC) Fri-Thu 12:50
The Descendants (14A) Fri-Thu 3:20-7:10-9:30
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-7:20-9:35
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:30-6:55-9
Safe House (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-7:05-9:40
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-3:35-7-9:15
This Means War (14A) Fri-Thu 1:05-3:30-7:25-9:45
The Vow (PG) Fri-Wed 1:20-3:40-7:15-9:35 Thu 3:40-7:15-9:35 Thu 1

Western Film
Room 340, UCC Building,
The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Sat-Mon 2-4:30
The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo (18A) Fri-Thu 7

Wellington 8 Cinemas
983 Wellington Rd. S, 519-685-2529
Big Miracle (STC) Sat-Mon 12:40

HANDOUT



▶ Ryan Reynolds and Denzel Washington star in Safe House.

Chronicle (14A) Fri-Thu 7:20-9:40
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance (14A) Sat-Mon 1:30
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) Fri 7:15-9:45 Sat-Mon 4:20-7:15-9:45 Tue-Thu 7:15-9:45
Hugo 3D (PG) Sat-Mon 1:35-4:25
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) No Passes Sat-Sun 1 Mon 1
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) No Passes Fri 6:40-9:15 No Passes Sat-Sun 3:40-6:40-9:15 Mon 3:40-6:40-9:15 Tue-Thu 6:40-9:15
Safe House (14A) Fri 7:10-9:55 Sat-Mon 12:50-3:50-7:10-9:55 Tue-Thu 7:10-9:55
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri 6:30-9:30 Sat-Mon 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:30 Tue-Thu 6:30-9:30
This Means War (14A) Fri 7-9:50 Sat-Mon 1:20-4:10-7-9:50 Tue-Thu 7-9:50
The Vow (PG) Fri 6:50-9:35 Sat-Mon 1:10-4-6:50-9:35 Tue-Thu 6:50-9:35
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri 6:20-9 Sat-Mon 3:20-6:20-9 Tue-Thu 6:20-9

Cineplex Odeon Westmount & VIP Cinemas
755 Wonderland Road South, 519-474-2796
Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG) Fri 3:40-6:40-9:40 Sat 12:30-3:40-6:40-9:40 Sun 3:40-6:40-9:40 Mon 12:30-3:30-6:30-9:25 Tue 3:30-6:30-9:25 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:25 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) No Passes Fri 5-7:40-10:20 No Passes Sat-Sun 12:15-2:30-5-7:40-10:20 No Passes Mon 1:40-4:40-7:30-10:10 No Passes Tue 4:40-7:30-10:10 No Passes Wed-Thu 7:30-10:10 No Passes Fri 4:15-7:15-10 No Passes Sat-Sun 1:30-4:15-7:15-10 No Passes Mon 1:30-4:15-7-9:40 No Passes Tue 4:15-7-9:40 No Passes Wed-Thu 7-9:40
The Grey (14A) Fri 4:20-7:20-10:10 Sat-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:20-10:10 Mon 1:10-4:10-6:55-9:40 Tue 4:10-6:55-9:40 Wed-Thu 6:55-9:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG) Sat-Sun 1 Mon 12:50
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 4:10-7-9:30 Mon-Tue 3:50-6:40-9:10 Wed-Thu 6:40-9:10
Safe House (14A) Fri 3:50-6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:50-6:50-9:50 Mon 1-4-6:50-9:35 Tue 4-6:50-9:35 Wed-Thu 6:50-9:35 Fri 4:45-7:45-10:30 Sat-Sun 2-4:45-7:45-10:30 Mon 2-4:45-7:30-10:10 Tue 4:45-7:30-10:10 Wed-Thu 7:30-10:10
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri 4-7:10-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:50-4-7:10-10:15 Mon 12:40-3:40-7:10:05 Tue 3:40-7:10:05 Wed-Thu 7:10:05
To Kill a Mockingbird (STC) Sun 1
The Vow (PG) Fri 5:10-7:50-10:30 Sat-Sun 12:10-2:40-5:10-7:50-10:30 Mon 1:20-4:20-7:10-9:55 Tue 4:20-7:10-9:55 Wed-Thu 7:10-9:55 Fri 3:45-6:45-9:30 Sat-Sun 1-3:45-6:45-9:30 Mon 1-3:45-6:30-9:10 Tue 3:45-6:30-9:10 Wed-Thu 6:30-9:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri 4:30-7:30-10 Sat-Sun 1:20-4:30-7:30-10 Mon 1:30-4:30-7:20-10 Tue 4:30-7:20-10 Wed-Thu 7:20-10

SilverCity London
1680 Richmond St, 519-673-4125
Big Miracle (STC) Fri-Sun 12:30-2:55-5:30-7:50 Mon 12:30-2:55-5:25-7:50 Tue-Thu 1:40-4:10-6:40
Chronicle (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:10-5:15-7:45-10 Mon 1-3:10-5:30-7:45-9:45 Tue-Thu 1-3:10-5:35-7:40-9:40
Contraband (14A) Fri-Mon 10:15 Tue-Thu 9:20
Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance 3D (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:55-3:20-5:50-8:20-10:50 No Passes Mon 1:10-4-6:50-9:35 No Passes Tue-Thu 2-4:30-7:10-9:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island — An IMAX 3D Experience (PG) Fri-Mon 12:35-2:50-5:10-7:30-9:50 Tue-Thu 1-3:20-5:40-7:55-10:10
Man on a Ledge (PG) Fri 12:45-3:15-5:35-8:05-10:35 Sat 12:15-2:35-8:15-10:35 Sun 12:45-3:15-5:35-10:35 Mon 12:45-3:15-5:35-7:55-10:15 Tue-Thu 1:05-4:20-7:05-9:50
The Muppet Movie (STC) Sat 11
LA Phil Live: Gustavo Dudamel Conducts Mahler 8 (STC) Sat 5
Safe House (14A) Fri 2-4:50-7:25-10:30 Sat 2-4:50-7:30-10:30 Sun 2-4:50-7:25-10:30 Mon 2-4:50-7:25-9:55 Tue-Thu 2:15-4:50-7:20-9:50
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) No Passes Fri-Mon 12:25-2:55-5:15-7:40-10:10 No Passes Tue-Thu 1:50-4:10-6:45-9:10
Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace 3D (STC) Fri-Sun 1:05-4:05-7:10-10:20 Mon-Thu 12:55-3:55-6:55-9:55
This Means War (14A) No Passes Fri-Sun 12:40-3:05-5:30-8-10:25 No Passes Mon 12:40-3:20-7:20-9:45 No Passes Tue 1:10-3:40-7:15-9:45 No Passes Wed 1-3:40-7:15-9:45 No Passes Thu 1:10-3:40-7:15-9:45
Underworld: Awakening 3D (18A) Fri-Sat 1:10-3:25-5:25-8:30-10:45 Sun 1:10-3:25-5:25-8:30 Mon 12:50-3:05-5:10-7:30-9:40 Tue-Thu 1:15-3:25-5:25-7:30-9:35
The Vow (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3-5:20-7:55-10:40 Mon 12:35-3-5:20-7:40-10 Tue 2:10-4:35-7:25-10 Wed 3:50-7:25-10 Thu 2:10-4:35-7:25-10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Woman in Black (14A) Fri-Mon 2:05-5:05-7:35-10:05 Tue 1:35-4:05-7-9:25 Wed 1:35-4:05-9:45 Thu 1:35-4:05-7-9:25
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Yorkdale Mall

WHERE DOES INDIE MUSIC GO FROM HERE?

SOUND CHECK

ALAN CROSS
SCENE
@METRONEWS.CA

When Justin "Bon Iver" Vernon began writing his second album, he didn't set out to win a Grammy. Out there in Wisconsin, he simply wanted to document the feelings in his heart. Maybe a few people would be interested enough to buy his music and then come out to a gig or two.

Imagine, then, what must have been going through his mind last Sunday night. Vernon is about as indie as they come in sound, style, aesthetic, attitude, history and image. His two wins at the Grammys demonstrate how, after years of being on the outside, indie music is now receiving mainstream attention.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Justin "Bon Iver" Vernon is proving that indie music is breaking through to the mainstream.

And let's not forget that Adele is an indie artist. Yes, 21 is distributed by Columbia Records, a division of Sony, but she's signed to XL Recordings, which is a department of Beggars Banquet, a British indie label with roots that go back to 1973.

For those who thought last year's Grammys was a fluke — wins by Arcade Fire and the ascent of Mumford & Sons to platinum-selling status — are either really pleased or really scared by these developments. Pleased because these great artists are having a chance to be heard by more people. Scared because mainstream attention threatens to have the clubby indie scene invaded by mainstream people.

Indie folk — and here I'm speaking as one of them — feel, rightly or wrongly, a certain sense of ownership when it comes to the artists we discover and nurture.

Indie folk — and here I'm speaking as one of them — feel, rightly or wrongly, a certain sense of ownership when it comes to the artists we discover and nurture. We root for them to become big — but not too big because that would somehow sour our relationship with them. We'd prefer if they'd just stay our little secret.

If, heaven forbid, they became commercial stars and relegated to premiere league status, wouldn't that make them no better than the dreckish Justin Bieber and Lady Gaga? No, the band hasn't changed; it just that, well, circumstances are different. Share? Us? No!

It's silly, of course, but that's often the prevailing attitude.

One of the best lyric fragments comes from the Sloan song Coax Me. It goes "It's not the band I hate/it's their fans." So far, artists like Arcade Fire and Bon Iver have managed to retain their indie cred despite being commercially successful. Will their old fans stick with them? Or will they bail in favour of something newer, cooler and less popular? We'll see.

ALAN IS THE HOST OF THE RADIO SHOW THE SECRET HISTORY OF ROCK. REACH HIM AT ALAN@ALANCROSS.CA

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Is the zombie apocalypse near?

Walking Dead star Andrew Lincoln says even his wife doesn't know the answer to the show's big mystery

Andrew Lincoln, who stars as Sheriff Rick Grimes in The Walking Dead, says he loves a secret.

That's partly why Lincoln has told no one the answer to what's become the biggest mystery of the AMC zombie drama: What scientist Dr. Jenner whispered to Rick in the season one finale.

"Not even my wife knows what he whispered to me," Lincoln said in an interview Wednesday.

Lincoln said that in keeping the secret he feels he is being true to his character in the show.

"He chooses not to tell people so why would I tell," Lincoln said of the sheriff.

What was said has only been heard by a handful of people, and the mystery has become the object of intense scrutiny by fans.

Lincoln said he realized just how curious people were when a show editor revealed he had scrolled through hours of show footage and listened in on radio traffic to find the only two takes where the brief remarks were audible. The cast says the contents of the conversation will be revealed this season.

Lincoln, who says the comments are "pivotal" for Rick, hints that the message was not good news.

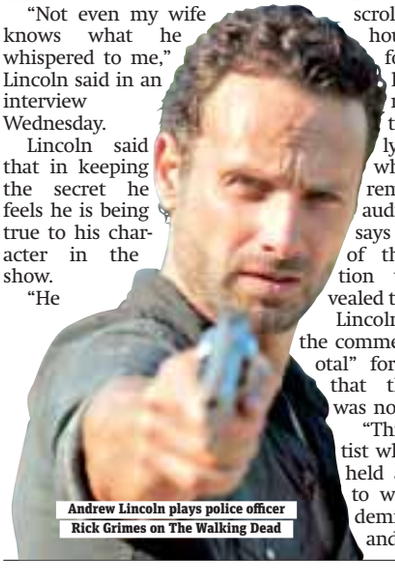
"This is a scientist who seemingly held all the cards to what this epidemic is about and I do think, you know, you would imagine he would have something of value to say on that matter," Lincoln said. "Well, he chose to kill himself."

The actor also said that Rick and his ragged group of survivors will likely leave the farm where they've taken refuge this season.

"Something happens and they realize very quickly that the farm is not as secure as they may think," he said.

The series continues Sunday at 9 p.m. Eastern.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Andrew Lincoln plays police officer Rick Grimes on The Walking Dead

"This is a scientist who seemingly held all the cards to what this epidemic is about... you would imagine he would have something of value to say on that matter. Well, he chose to kill himself."

ANDREW LINCOLN, ON WHAT HIS CHARACTER LEARNED FROM DR. JENNER ON THE WALKING DEAD

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TV picks

Enter Gervais... as a dolphin

ONLY ON FAMILY GUY. British funnyman Ricky Gervais stops by Family Guy Sunday night to play... a dolphin? Yes, the Golden Globes host will portray a marine mammal who moves to Quahog and overstays his welcome at Peter's place. (Fox, Global)

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ay, caramba! Simpsons mark another milestone

500th episode of Simpsons to air Sunday on Global

CASSANDRA GARRISON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

It's hard to believe that we've been hearing Bart Simpson say "Eat my shorts" since 1989, but the world will be graced with the 500th episode of The Simpsons this Sunday on Global.

The episode, titled At Long Last Leave, will find the Simpsons driven out of their beloved hometown of Springfield when their fellow neighbours finally give them the boot.

The Simpsons join a community from the other side of the tracks and make an unsuccessful attempt to return to Springfield.

HANDOUT

▶ Call us childish, but the couch game really doesn't get old.

Look for a cameo from Wikileaks founder Julian Assange, as himself. A special feature song by Alison Krauss will also be included.

Your faves...

What is your favourite Simpsons episode? Metro asked our readers and Twitter followers to send in their picks.

@TaraLiane: Top 3: Deep Space Homer, Cape Feare, A Fish Called Selma

@Laur008: the one where Bart gets his fake license "that's it! Back to #Winnipeg" is a classic #Simpsons line.

Comedy Corner
A student noticed his roomate was upset. "Whats the matter?" He asked his roomate. "I wrote home asking my parents for money so I could buy a laptop, and they sent me a laptop!"
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‘I promise I won’t beat you’

Chris Brown has an awful new pick-up line, according to Us Weekly

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Here’s the thing about Chris Brown and The Word: Yes, he brutally beat his then-girlfriend Rihanna in 2009. But the man served the sentence our judicial system thought was fair and so he should be allowed to get on with his life and music without a stupid gossip columnist dredging it up all the time.

My prerogative is that we all know he’s a cowardly woman beater. Do with that information what you will.

Except the idiot continues to open his big mouth and make jokes about domestic violence and so, sorry, I can’t drop it.

▶ Chris Brown

According to Us Weekly, Brown has a totally romantic new pick-up line. A woman tells the magazine that Brown approached her on Feb. 10 at the Grammy gift lounge to ask for her number.

“Can I get your number? I promise I won’t beat you,” the woman said Brown told her.

“He and his friends laughed, then one yelled, ‘That’s his new line!’” she said. “I wanted to throw up.”

There are many ways I would like to respond to this stupid, hurtful and awful running joke of Brown’s but I don’t have the space. I’ll just say: It is my sincere hope that one day Chris Brown has a daughter and maybe, just maybe, he will feel sick at the thought of any man laying a hand on her. And then he will finally realize just what a terrible thing he did in his past and will finally know that making flippant asides about beating women is not OK.

But somehow, even then, I don’t think he’ll get it.

Celebrity tweets

@kirstiealley

my house has become a soup kitchen for wayward Raccoons...now serving 8 of em twice a day...just in case ur missing them, there over here

@Billy

man cheats on wife, marries his mistress, runs for president and gets an ovation for being insane...only in amerisicka

@Joan_Rivers

It’s times like these that you wish Manolo Blahnik made a wading boot.

@ConanOBrien

What will become of the SkyMall catalogue when there are actually malls in the sky?

Angelina gets death threats

Angelina Jolie and the actors who star in her directorial debut, In the Land of Blood and Honey, have been receiving death threats over the film’s content, according to The Guardian.

“There were things sent to me, there were things posted online,” Jolie says. “The cast have never complained to me about these threats but I’ve heard through other people it was happening. One of them did have their windows smashed in on their cars and someone else had an issue when their phone was hacked and emails were sent out saying they were from them and saying they had been hurt.” METRO

Angelina Jolie

▶ Whitney Houston

Just what was Whitney on?

In the investigation into what exactly caused Whitney Houston’s death, investigators are reportedly interviewing the late singer’s doctors about what sort of medications had been prescribed, according to the Associated Press.

“We’ve already contacted a number of doctors with requests for records,” a coroner’s official confirms, adding that such a move is common in investigations such as this one. The move brings to mind the investigation into Michael Jackson’s death, which resulted in his doctor, Conrad Murray, being convicted on manslaughter charges.

Funeral

The rumours that Bobby Brown might not be on the invite list for ex-wife Whitney Houston’s funeral on Saturday are “totally untrue,” a family source tells People. “He is not being banned. That’s completely untrue,” says the source. Another family friend tells the magazine: “Bobby will be there at the funeral to support his (and Houston’s) daughter (Bobbi Kristina Brown, 18). There was some talk ... some people were angry at him, but that’s just grief. He will be there.” METRO

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Seal takes off his wedding ring

The reality of wife Heidi Klum’s divorce filing must be starting to set in for Seal, as the singer was spotted not wearing his wedding ring for the first time, according to Us Weekly.

Seal arrived in Australia this week without the band on his finger. He’d been wearing it defiantly after Klum’s separation announcement last month.

“Just because we have decided to separate doesn’t necessarily mean you take off your ring and you’re no longer connected to that person,” Seal told Ellen DeGeneres in an interview at the time. METRO

Rumer speaks out

Rumer Willis is finally speaking out about mom Demi Moore’s drug-related hospitalization and current rehab stint in Utah.

“My mother is on the road to recovery. It’s slow going but we believe in her,” Willis tells Germany’s TZ online.

“Of course the situation weighs heavily on me.” Willis is alleged to have been at home with Moore when an ambulance had to be called to rush Moore to the hospital. METRO

▶ Rumer Willis

In the name of tradition

PETER ROCKWELL
LIQUIDASSETS@EASTLINK.CA
TWITTER: @THEREALWINEGUY

You have to love a celebration that can combine beads, boobs and beverages, and still stay classy. OK, while Mardi Gras may not be the textbook example of class, it certainly is a world-renowned party.

Many revellers wandering the streets of New Orleans during the festivities will be enjoying a Hurricane — the city's hallmark cocktail.

Invented in the 1940s by French Quarter bar owner Pat O'Brien, it's a mix of rum and fruit juices served in a glass resembling a hurricane lamp.

The recipe is simple to make:

- 1 oz white rum
- 1 oz dark rum
- 2 oz passion fruit juice
- 1 oz orange juice
- ½ oz fresh lime juice
- 1 tbsp simple syrup
- 1 tbsp grenadine
- 1 orange slice & cherry

Shake all the ingredients together with ice and strain into an ice-filled glass. Garnish with the cherry and orange slice.

My alternative version adds half an ounce of Bacardi 151° Overproof Amber Rum ($34.99 - $44.95) to the mix. It kicks the drink into overdrive. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS CANADA. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**

Beads, booze and jambalaya

New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebrations take place on Tuesday ● If you can't get there, enjoy a taste from home with this Southern favourite

U.S. FARM-RAISED CATFISH

▶ The recipe serves six to eight people.

This bowl full of colour and flavour is made even better with the addition of catfish.

The jambalaya should be thick. If it's too thin, simmer it uncovered until some liquid evaporates.

Preparation:

1 In a Dutch oven or a wide saucepan heat oil over medium heat. Add sausage and cook until lightly browned. Add ham, onion, celery, green pepper and garlic, cook, stirring for about 8 to 10 minutes.

2 Stir in broth, tomatoes, herbs and hot pepper sauce. Bring to boil. Add rice. Cover and simmer, 15 minutes or until rice is partially cooked. Stir in catfish pieces and bring back to simmer. Cover and cook 15 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork and rice is tender. Remove from heat; cover and let stand for 5 minutes. Add salt to taste before serving.

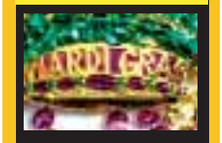
U.S. FARM-RAISED CATFISH

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) olive oil
- ½ lb (250 g) mild or hot Italian sausage, cut into 1/2-inch (1-cm) pieces
- ½ lb (250 g) smoked ham or kielbasa, cut into 1-inch (2.5-cm) pieces
- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 celery stalk, chopped
- 1 large green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 4 cups (1L) low-sodium chicken broth
- 1 can (28 oz/796 mL) diced tomatoes
- 1 ½ tsp (7 mL) thyme
- ½ tsp (2 mL) basil leaves
- 1 tsp (5 mL) each dried oregano leaves and hot pepper sauce
- 1 ½ cups (375 mL) uncooked long-grain rice
- 2 lbs (1 kg) Catfish fillets, cut into pieces about 1 ½ - inches (3.5-cm)
- Salt to taste

3 life

More than beads



After Carnival season wraps, many New Orleans locals give up their favourite foods for Lent. That makes Mardi Gras a great time to consume everything from gumbo and fried chicken to crawfish and pork chops, topped with King Cake and washed down with beer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sweet taste of New Orleans: Recipe for Praline Beignets with Café au Lait Icing.

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4 sports

BERNARD BRAULT/THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

▶ Gary Carter is mobbed by fans in Montreal in July 1983.

Expos legend Gary Carter dies at 57

Revered Hall of Fame catcher was diagnosed with brain tumour last May

Gary Carter was nicknamed "Kid" for good reason.

His smile, bubbly personality and eagerness to excel on a ballfield made him a joy to watch.

Even his Hall of Fame bronze plaque at Cooperstown shows him with a toothy grin — the Kid forever.

The star catcher, the first player enshrined in the Hall of Fame wearing an Expos cap, died Thursday. He was 57.

Mets spokesman Jay Horwitz said Carter died in the West Palm Beach, Fla., area.

Carter was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour last May, two weeks after finishing his second season as coach at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

"Driven by a remarkable enthusiasm for the game, Gary Carter became one of the elite catchers of all-time."
MLB COMMISSIONER BUD SELIG

"I am deeply saddened to tell you all that my precious dad went to be with Jesus today at 4:10 p.m.," Carter's daughter Kimmy Bloemers wrote on the family website. "This is the most difficult thing I have ever had to write in my entire life but I wanted you all to know."

9
Overall, Gary Carter hit .262 with 324 home runs and 1,225 RBIs. He set the MLB record for putouts by a catcher, a testament to his durability despite nine knee operations.

Carter started his career with the Expos late in the 1974 season and was the face of the franchise in his 12 seasons with the team. He led Montreal to its only playoff berth in 1981.

In all, Carter played nearly two decades with the Expos, Mets, San Francisco Giants and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

He was an 11-time all-star and three-time Gold Glove winner whose 10th-inning single in Game 6 of the 1986 World Series helped the Mets mount a charge against the Red Sox and eventually beat them.

"His nickname 'the Kid' captured how Gary approached life," the Mets said in a statement. "He did everything with enthusiasm and with gusto.... He was a Hall of Famer in everything he did."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"If I decide to come back, hopefully the fans will accept me."
LEBRON JAMES, WHO SAID HE WOULD NOT RULE OUT A RETURN TO THE CLEVELAND CAVALIERS, A TEAM HE CARRIED TO THE BRINK OF A TITLE BEFORE HE SPURNED AN ENTIRE REGION BY LEAVING AS A FREE AGENT IN 2010 TO CHASE A CHAMPIONSHIP WITH MIAMI.

Sharks, Bolts strike deal before game-time

The small list of NHL teams willing to sell off assets at the trade deadline grew by one on Thursday.

The Tampa Bay Lightning sent centre Dominic Moore and a seventh-round draft pick this year to the San Jose Sharks for a 2012 second-round pick. The trade was announced just before the Sharks faced the Lightning.

"Dominic is an extremely versatile player that has performed in a lot of important playoff games the last two years," San Jose general manager Doug Wilson said in a statement. "We feel that he is a great fit in several areas and his veteran presence will benefit our team greatly."

Tampa Bay GM Steve Yzerman announced earlier Thursday that he was also working on a deal involving veteran defenceman Pavel Kubina.

"We've decided to protect our interest and keep Pavel off the ice until the situation is resolved," Yzerman told reporters in Tampa.

Entering Thursday's game, Tampa was 10 points back of the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

The Lightning join a list of teams willing to trade players ahead of the Feb. 27 trade deadline. Columbus, Edmonton and Carolina are among the others looking to make moves with an eye on the future.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Seattle sets sight on NBA, NHL franchises

City officials say arena financing only works with two franchises

Christopher Hansen is making a $290-million US proposal that could be the impetus for a new sports arena that could bring the NBA and NHL to Seattle.

All he needs is city and county approval equaling $200 million and two franchises to make it a reality.

Hansen, a hedge-fund manager based in San Francisco and a Seattle native, submitted a proposal to the city on Thursday that calls for $290 million in private investment toward the construction of a new arena that would cost between $450 and $500 million. Hansen and his investment group would be responsible for the purchase of an NBA franchise and finding a partner to bring an NHL franchise to Seattle as well.

"I am confident this proposal will be looked on favourably by both leagues and sincerely believe that together we can accomplish the goal of securing NBA and NHL franchises for our community."
CHRISTOPHER HANSEN

The proposal is the first significant step toward solving the arena problem that was at the root of the SuperSonics' move from Seattle to Oklahoma City in 2008.

The proposal will now go before a review board with King County executive Dow Constantine hoping it can be completed within a month.

According to a letter submitted by Hansen, remaining construction and development costs would be financed by the city and King County using taxes and revenues generated by the new facility and rent charged to teams playing in the arena. City officials say there will be no new public taxes needed for the building and that the city's portion of the investment will be capped at $200 million with additional costs paid for by the private investors.

From there, Hansen's proposal would need city and county approval. City Coun. Tim Burgess believes the council could be complete with its arena review as early as June. But even with ultimate approval, no shovels will be going into the land just south of Safeco Field until an anchor tenant is in hand with a 30-year lease agreement that includes a no-relocation clause. City officials say their projections for how the financing plan would work are based off having both an NHL and NBA team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

like us
metro

Community Events

Community Events

We are conducting a clinical study for an investigational natural health product that may help reduce your cholesterol.

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General Services

General Services

Sell Your Stuff For FREE! Call 1-800-527-6767

Limited space Available Size 1.535" X .542", Limit 1/day, 2/wk

2 RECLINERS - Dark chocolate brown leather a few months old $225 EACH Call 519-685-0330

Black Wood Burning Stove-fits 2 ft logs with air fan. Asking $250 firm Robert @ 519-204-4396 or cell @ 519-615-5199

DRYER- WHITE SEARS KENMORE $75.00 Good working condition! 519-439-8814

French Provincial Dining Room Set Lrg Table w/4 chairs + hutch Like New Best Offer 519-685-1275

GOLF TAYLOR MADE New Rescue TP Hybrid Great Gift $100.00 519-319-5323

Night Table with drawer and lower shelf. All wood construction, mahogany in color 24"h 14"d & 19" long Asking $35.00 (519)472-4290

Advertising Display Pole 9' with base and brackets, mint condition, asking $90.00 Please call **(519)473-1091**

Call: 1-800-527-6767 today to book this space! Size 1.535" X .542", Limit 1/day, 2/wk

ENGINE PREHEATER Zero Start by Phillips Plumbs 2 Coolant System - $80.00 519-678-3273

GI JOE COLLECTION 1960's and 70's. Mint condition. $100.00 and up **519-649-0905**

HARDWOOD WALNUT- Dry pieces - Firewood $100 Delivery Available 519-678-3273

Pentium 4 Computer Windows XP, MS Office , Internet ready $95.00 (519)686-7658

ARINS Snowblower - 5 hp, 2 stage, 24"cut, 4 spd, electric start $375 OBO Call 519-633-1742

CANNISTER SETS W/SPOONS Royal blue and dark green Like new condition **$20.00 each 519-474-4606**

FISHING EQUIPMENT - two heavy-duty spin-casting reels $60.00 519-686-3049

GOLF TAYLORMADE New Burner Lob Wedge RH $60.00 519-319-5323

Hydro-Foils for Outboard Motor $45.00 each Call 519-686-3049

STORM DOOR, white aluminum 2 lite, frame, 34"x 79"x 2", RH $100 519-432-6890

Authentic "Prada" Jacket Mint Condition Silver and White ,Unisex ,Water Resistant, Wind Prove, Size Medium Pd $500 Asking $200 (519)434-9338

Cannon Electric Down Riggers Mini-Mag $350 Mag 10 $450 Call 519-686-3049

FOLDING WHEELCHAIR Good Condition $80.00 519-439-8841

Golf TAYLORMADE New Rac Satin Sand Wedge 56'LH $60.00 519-319-5323

Keyboard - Casio model CTK541 Brand new with stand $85.00 21" samsung computer screen model Sync Master 2253vw $85 (519)680-7669

Xena Warrier Princess Collection 8" and 12" figures and other items Nothing over $25.00 519-649-0905

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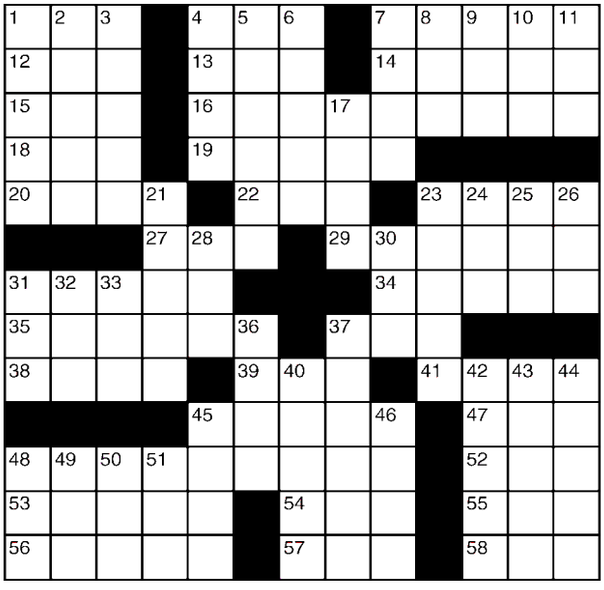
Crossword



Across

1 Sort
4 Part of UCLA
7 Rice, on a Mexican menu
12 Army rank (Abbr.)
13 Raw rock
14 007 portrayer Roger
15 Debtor's letters
16 Zodiac sign
18 Small salamander
19 14-Across, e.g.
20 Bronx cheer
22 Long. crosser
23 Long story
27 Lamb's dam
29 Hostage taker
31 Spry
34 Neat
35 Per — income
37 A Bobbsey Twin
38 Trudge
39 Personal question?
41 T, in Morse code
45 Handles
47 Meadow
48 Toy shooter
52 Rowing need
53 Eye-related
54 Tokyo's old name
55 Storefront sign abbr.
56 Practical joke
57 Caustic solution
58 Fire residue

Down

1 Less friendly
2 Bath sponge
3 Inept one
4 "Livin' la Vida —"
5 Soothsayer
6 Partitions that may be "deviated"
7 Eastern bigwig (Var.)
8 Sinbad's bird
9 Aussie hopper
10 Boston rink legend
11 Buddhist sect
17 Campus mil. org.
21 Chameleonlike Woody Allen character
23 Shell out
24 $ dispenser
25 Dems.' rivals
26 Illustrations
28 Drench
30 Alias abbr.
31 Rm. coolers
32 Lassie
33 NYSE debut
36 Botanical bristles
37 Nary a soul
40 Monopoly building
42 Wahine's welcome
43 Big name in mail order
44 Coarse
45 Break (a habit)
46 — gin fizz
48 Police officer
49 Spring mo.
50 Bake sale grp.
51 Wrestling victory

▶ Yesterday's answer

P	O	P		R	S	V	P		D	A	D	S		
I	R	A		E	K	E	S		A	L	E	E		
P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E		I	T	L	L		
		A	G	O		T	U	R	M	O	I	L		
T	A	L	E	N	T		D	E	L					
I	V	Y		E	A	R		D	E	P	T	H		
D	O	Z	E		M	A	D		R	A	R	A		
E	W	E	R	S		M	U	D		R	O	T		
			U	L	T		D	E	B	A	T	E		
T	I	E	D	Y	E	D		F	A	Q				
A	N	T	I		P	A	R	A	G	U	A	Y		
S	K	A	T		I	T	E	M		A	L	E		
K	Y	L	E		D	A	M	E		T	A	W		

Sudoku

7		4	1				6	
				8				
				5	7			4
2		5			4	7		
1		3				6		5
		6	5			8		9
8			9	6				
				2				
	1				8	2		3

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

5	1	3	6	9	2	8	7	4
4	8	7	3	1	5	9	6	2
6	9	2	4	7	8	3	1	5
9	2	1	7	8	6	5	4	3
7	5	4	1	2	3	6	8	9
8	3	6	9	5	4	7	2	1
1	6	8	5	4	9	2	3	7
3	4	9	2	6	7	1	5	8
2	7	5	8	3	1	4	9	6

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

Brani, I love you more than anything in the worl! Be my wife and let's be happy! **TONI**

Dear Chris, you made my life brighter. We used to chat in the stairs, we used to laugh together, drink wine together, lie on your bed and talk all night long, can't stop thinking about you :(I know you had a crush on this other girl (I told you I think she's a total loser...anyways...) and I'm super shy, so I didn't make any move or didn't express my feelings so far...but now I haven't heard from you since you're back from your lil trip. Whatever happens between us, I just want to tell you I love you. **YOUR LONG TIME FAN**

To my pet, I'm eagerly to see u at terminal and main at 11am i'll be there untill 1230.come to see me. **MCDONALD**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
Someone whose views you disagree with profoundly will play a huge role in your life over the next few weeks. You need each other.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
When the Sun changes signs on Sunday, you'll be back to your old self again. Between now and then, prepare for some fireworks.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
The Sun is about to cross the career angle of your chart, which suggests you will be in the spotlight.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 According to the planets, you'll start something new over the next few weeks. Don't waste your resources.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
You are on the verge of something big, but you don't need to force the situation. Let success come to you.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
Cosmic activity in your opposite sign makes it appear as if you're losing control. Stop trying to hold on to what you no longer need.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
The Sun's imminent move into the well-being area of your chart makes it a good time to take stock of your chores and responsibilities.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You will get no end of opportunities between now and the end of the month to make your mark.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 What's missing in your life will become apparent over the next few days. Once it does, all you have to do is go out and get it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
If someone offers you something for nothing, they probably just like you and want to make you happy.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Wait until the Sun leaves your sign on the weekend before making a decision about a money matter.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 A new solar year begins on Sunday and it promises to be one in which your dreams start coming true.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

DAVID GUTTENFELDER/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CRAIG RUTTLE/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Tuesday's Metro.

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OXFORD

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- Keyless
- Dark Tint

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- Alloy wheels
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ONLY $499 DOWN - SIGN & DRIVE AWAY - ALL PAYMENTS BI-WEEKLY @ 4.99%

Example cost of borrowing on $10,000 over 84 months is $1,755. On approved credit. All payments plus taxes and licensing. 2009-2012 models based on 84 months. 2005 based on 72 months. 2006 & 2007 based on 60 months. Subject to change without notice. Rate is variable. (U72942011 Dodge Avenger SXT - $16,998. (U72952011 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT - $28,998. (U72972010 Dodge Avenger SE $13,998. (U72952010 Dodge Caliber SXT - $13,988. (U72972010 Chrysler PT Cruiser - $13,988.

Closed Monday, February 20

It's Family Day! But... Drop by for a hot dog and a soda. All our vehicles will be open for your viewing.

Unfortunately....

No sales people will be present so you will have to come back Tuesday for a test drive.

Kent Roxborough, Greg Gazdza, Andrea Worthy, Chris Battaglia, Chris Borsk, Craig Herron, Joseph Liberatore, Jerry Bested, Deborah Mills-Beaulieu, Mike Beach, Robert Tiedemann, Brad Elliott, Scott Cyr

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